

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 6, 7, 13, and 21 as being anticipated by Lampe. The Examiner has stated that Lampe discloses a dispenser with a wall surface defined by 2, a reservoir 4, a venting means including slots 21 in the wall surface, and flow restrictor 6 having at least one aperture wherein the flow restrictor 6 has an inlet site 11b and an outlet site wherein the active substance contact the inlet site 11b under gravity. Applicant notes that, as amended, claim 21 now actively recites a viscous active substance, something neither taught nor suggested by Lampe. It is this viscous active substance which permits the aperture of the flow restrictor in combination with this viscosity to restrain the active substance by surface tension. The viscosity of the active substance is what permits the active substance to: 1) be retained within the reservoir; and 2) under the appropriate circumstances to be released from the reservoir. As stated above, this is neither taught by Lampe nor is it obvious therefrom.

Further, Lampe states that the porous liquid absorbing mass 6 always communicates with liquid F contained in the liquid reservoir 4; thus the liquid absorbing mass, which may be a sponge or other porous material, thus restricts the flow path from the reservoir (column 2, lines 29-36), while Applicant's inlet is now recited as directly communicating with the reservoir.

Finally, Applicant has added other structure to claim 21, specifically, the flow restrictor is now recited as communicating with the interior of the reservoirs, the aperture is now recited as extending between the outlet side and inlet side, a body section now supports the reservoir, as well as releases the viscous active substance, an outlet channel extends from the outlet side to communicate directly with the aperture and ramp surfaces direct the water to the outlet channel. With this added structure, Applicant contends that the invention of claim 21 clearly distinguishes over Lampe.

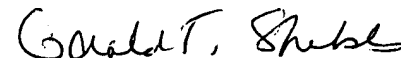
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Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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